



## Higher National Unit specification: general information

**Unit title:** Contemporary Dance for Musical Theatre 2

**Unit code:** H4K6 35

**Superclass:** LB

**Publication date:** July 2013

**Source:** Scottish Qualifications Authority

**Version:** 01

### Unit purpose

The purpose of this Unit is to equip learners with the practical means/skills to extend and apply contemporary dance techniques through personal progression to more complex aspects of presentation and performance. This Unit is intended to develop contemporary dance skills covered in *Contemporary Dance for Musical Theatre 1* and to give learners more detailed Knowledge and Understanding of contemporary dance technique.

On completion of this Unit, the learner will be able to:

- 1 Demonstrate intermediate contemporary dance technique floor work.
- 2 Demonstrate intermediate contemporary dance technique in the centre.
- 3 Perform a taught, choreographed Musical Theatre contemporary dance piece.

### Recommended prior knowledge and skills

While entry is at the discretion of the centre, learners would normally be expected to have attained the following Unit, or equivalent:

*Contemporary Dance for Musical Theatre 1* (SCQF level 7)

### Credit points and level

1 Higher National Unit credit at SCQF level 7: (8 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 7\*)

*\*SCQF credit points are used to allocate credit to qualifications in the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF). Each qualification in the Framework is allocated a number of SCQF credit points at an SCQF level. There are 12 SCQF levels, ranging from Access 1 to Doctorates.*

## **General information (cont)**

### **Core Skills**

Opportunities to develop aspects of Core Skills are highlighted in the Support Notes of this Unit specification.

There is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skill components in this Unit.

### **Context for delivery**

If this Unit is delivered as part of a Group Award, it is recommended that it should be taught and assessed within the subject area of the Group Award to which it contributes.

## Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards

**Unit title:** Contemporary Dance for Musical Theatre 2

**Unit code:** H4K6 35

The sections of the Unit stating the Outcomes, Knowledge and/or Skills, and Evidence Requirements are mandatory.

Where evidence for Outcomes is assessed on a sample basis, the whole of the content listed in the Knowledge and/or Skills section must be taught and available for assessment. Learners should not know in advance the items on which they will be assessed and different items should be sampled on each assessment occasion.

### Outcome 1

Demonstrate intermediate contemporary dance technique floor work.

#### Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Centering
- ◆ Gravity
- ◆ Posture/stance
- ◆ Breathing
- ◆ Momentum
- ◆ Flow

#### Evidence Requirements

Learners will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills in all aspects of the following contemporary dance steps showing that they have an accurate understanding of the practical methods of executing each step. Learners are required to present a series of basic steps with control and co-ordination to include the following exercises as the minimum requirement for this Unit:

#### Floor Work

- ◆ Stretches
- ◆ Leg flexes
- ◆ Rises from the floor
- ◆ Extension
- ◆ Contraction
- ◆ Rolls

## **Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)**

**Unit title:** Contemporary Dance for Musical Theatre 2

### **Outcome 2**

Demonstrate intermediate contemporary dance technique in the centre.

#### **Knowledge and/or Skills**

- ◆ Centering
- ◆ Gravity
- ◆ Posture/stance
- ◆ Breathing
- ◆ Momentum
- ◆ Flow
- ◆ Alignment
- ◆ Travelling sequences

#### **Evidence Requirements**

Learners will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills in all aspects of the following contemporary dance steps in the centre, showing that they have an accurate understanding of the practical methods of executing each step. Learners are required to present a series of basic steps with control and co-ordination to include the following exercises as the minimum requirement for this Unit:

#### **Centre Practice**

- ◆ Roll Downs
- ◆ Releases
- ◆ Fall and recover
- ◆ Swings
- ◆ Jumps

#### **Travelling Sequences**

- ◆ Triplets
- ◆ Tilts
- ◆ Throws
- ◆ Transfer of weight
- ◆ Extension
- ◆ Balance

## Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

**Unit title:** Contemporary Dance for Musical Theatre 2

### Outcome 3

Perform a taught, choreographed Musical Theatre contemporary dance piece.

#### Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Reproduction of choreography
- ◆ Performance qualities
- ◆ Acting through dance
- ◆ Stagecraft

#### Evidence Requirements

Learners will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ Accurately reproduce tutor-led choreography. This will be a tutor-led piece of a minimum of two minutes in length.
- ◆ Demonstrate the synthesis of contemporary dance technique learned in Outcomes 1 and 2, in the performance of a dance piece.
- ◆ Demonstrate performance qualities throughout the choreographed piece. This must incorporate projection to the audience, character interpretation of the movement, use of dynamics and musicality.
- ◆ Demonstrate use of stagecraft through the knowledge and application of awareness of exits and entrances, eye line, interaction with other characters in the piece, size of performance space, and type of performance event.

## Higher National Unit specification: support notes

### Unit title: Contemporary Dance for Musical Theatre 2

This part of the Unit specification is offered as guidance. The support notes are not mandatory.

While the exact time allocated to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre, the notional design length is 40 hours.

### Guidance on the content and context for this Unit

This Unit is designed to develop the learner's skills and knowledge of contemporary dance in Musical Theatre and is not designed for any specific style of contemporary dance within the Musical Theatre context. Learners should be given the opportunity to explore a range of contemporary dance styles within the Unit to allow them to establish their strengths, weaknesses and range of movement.

At this level, learners are acquiring the skills to demonstrate *Contemporary Dance for Musical Theatre* styles, and they should also be encouraged to interpret these and create character styles.

**Outcome 1** equips learners with the intermediate technical skills required through contemporary dance floor work to appropriately improve and execute Musical Theatre dance styles.

**Outcome 2** equips learners with the intermediate technical skills required through contemporary dance centre practice and travelling sequences to appropriately improve and execute Musical Theatre dance styles.

**Outcome 3** enables learners to synthesis learning from Outcomes 1 and 2 by performing in a tutor choreographed contemporary dance piece for Musical Theatre lasting a minimum of two minutes. This will enable the learners to combine their technical and performance skills.

### Guidance on the delivery of this Unit

This Unit has been developed as part of the HNC/D *Musical Theatre* Group Award.

Lessons should involve mainly practical work which includes classwork, sequences and rehearsals although it is recommended that as many examples of contemporary dance in Musical Theatre be shown, discussed and evaluated to enable the learner to fully understand the plethora of styles.

### Guidance on the assessment of this Unit

Assessments will be recorded in order to ensure authentication of learner work. This could be done by use of assessment checklists and/or video.

Due to the Unit structure, Outcome 1 should be assessed first. Thereafter, the Outcomes may be assessed separately or concurrently.

## Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

### Unit title: Contemporary Dance for Musical Theatre 2

Outcome 3 provides an opportunity for collaborative Unit work and cross assessment. This is recommended to enable a holistic understanding of the place of movement and dance in Musical Theatre for the learner.

### Assessment Guidelines

#### Outcome 1

Evidence should be generated by the performance of contemporary dance floor work exercises.

#### Outcome 2

Evidence should be generated by the performance of contemporary dance centre exercises.

#### Outcome 3

Evidence should be generated by learners performing a two minute contemporary dance piece for Musical Theatre.

### Online and Distance Learning

This Unit is not suitable for delivery by distance learning because it requires learners to take part in regular studio based practical sessions, which are required to be led and observed by a qualified practitioner to meet:

- ◆ Evidence Requirements
- ◆ Health and Safety Requirements

### Opportunities for developing Core Skills

In Outcome 3, learners must work together during their reproduction of a tutor-led choreographed piece and maintain spatial awareness. This presents an ideal opportunity to develop aspects of the Core Skill of *Working with Others*.

### Disabled learners and/or those with additional support needs

The additional support needs of individual learners should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments, or considering whether any reasonable adjustments may be required. Further advice can be found on our website [www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements](http://www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements)

## History of changes to Unit

Version	Description of change	Date

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## General information for learners

### Unit title: Contemporary Dance for Musical Theatre 2

This Unit is designed to extend and apply your overall skills and knowledge of contemporary dance in Musical Theatre and is not designed for any specific style of contemporary dance within the Musical Theatre context. You will be given the opportunity to explore a range of contemporary dance styles within the Unit to allow you to establish your strengths, weaknesses and range of movement.

At this level, you are acquiring the skills to demonstrate *Contemporary Dance for Musical Theatre* styles, yet you should also be encouraged to interpret these and create character styles.

**Outcome 1** equips you with the intermediate technical skills required through contemporary dance floor work to appropriately improve and execute Musical Theatre dance styles.

Outcome 1 will cover the following:

- ◆ Stretches
- ◆ Leg flexes
- ◆ Rises from the floor
- ◆ Extension
- ◆ Contraction
- ◆ Rolls

**Outcome 2** equips you with the intermediate technical skills required through contemporary dance centre practice and travelling sequences to appropriately improve and execute Musical Theatre dance styles.

Outcome 2 will cover the following work and travelling sequences:

#### Centre Practice

- ◆ Roll downs
- ◆ Releases
- ◆ Fall and recover
- ◆ Swings
- ◆ Jumps

#### Travelling Sequences

- ◆ Triplets
- ◆ Tilts
- ◆ Throws
- ◆ Transfer of weight
- ◆ Extension
- ◆ Balance

**Outcome 3** enables you to synthesis learning from Outcomes 1 and 2 by performing in a tutor choreographed contemporary dance piece for Musical Theatre lasting a minimum of two minutes. This will enable you to combine your technical and performance skills.